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Drive Alert. Arrive Alive.

Georgia DOT Restricts Construction-Related Lane Closures Statewide Over Memorial Day Holiday

ATLANTA – To ease Memorial Day weekend traffic congestion, the Georgia Department of Transportation is suspending construction-related lane closures on interstate and major state system highways beginning at noon on Friday, May 22, and extending until 5 a.m., Tuesday, May 26.

“We hope the suspension of major construction work will allow motorists to get to and from their holiday destinations with less congestion and less aggravation,” said GDOT Director of Construction Jeff Baker. “This is the first holiday of the summer travel season and many people are hitting the road. We want to make it a little easier for them to travel throughout the state.”

The Department reminds travelers to exercise caution as heavy holiday traffic is expected; crews may still be working in proximity to highways; and safety concerns may require some long-term lane closures to remain in place. Also, incident management or emergency, maintenance-related lane closures could become necessary at any time on any route.

Memorial Day weekend is considered one of the heaviest travel times. With traffic deaths in Georgia up an average of 25% compared to last year, GDOT urges drivers to **DriveAlert ArriveAlive**, a campaign imploring motorists to wear their seatbelts, stay off the phone and focus on driving.

In the event of a crash or breakdown, GDOT advises motorists to **never** get out of the car on a freeway, unless your life is in imminent danger. Pull off the road if possible. Otherwise remain seat belted in the vehicle; turn on emergency flashers; and if possible, raise the hood.

Georgia DOT advises travelers to call 511 for updated information about travel conditions on Georgia’s interstates and state routes. Georgia 511 is a free phone service that provides real-time traffic and travel information statewide, such as traffic conditions, incidents, lane closures, and delays due to inclement weather. Callers also can transfer to operators to request assistance or report incidents 24 hours a day, seven days a week. More information is available at www.511ga.org.

***DriveAlert ArriveAlive** calls attention to an alarming increase in roadway fatalities across Georgia, many resulting from preventable crashes and distracted driving. **DriveAlert ArriveAlive** implores motorists to buckle up; stay off the phone and no texting; and drive alert. Visit www.dot.ga.gov/DS/SafetyOperation/DAAA. #ArriveAliveGA*

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